kuri _绘　Nature _脚本
Illustrations: kuri
Script: Nature
Translation: Su Jing

彼岸花 Higanbana

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彼岸花

Please enjoy "Higanbana" (Red Spider Lily).
Available in Chinese at
http://www.manben.com/mh-bianhua1/
Support kuri and Nature well!

You can find me on bato.to or at
https://carelesssujing.tumblr.com/

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Chirp chirp
Chirp chirp

The only flower shop in Z City is located in a corner of the East District near the city centre.
On this day Gao Yuan sits at the counter as usual reading a newspaper. His helper Jiang Hua hums a tune while arranging wilted flowers in her vase that were damaged during shipping.
Manager!
What?
My flower divination says you will have bad luck today.
Even if nothing bad happens to me, I feel misfortunate having to look at this flower arrangement.
How wonderful!
Jingle
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I want to buy red spider lilies
What are you looking for?
Oh? Fresh flowers or seeds? How many do you need?
I need very, very many! The kind that can be planted!
You can't carelessly plant a lot. They're..... not that easy to grow.
.....
Red spider lilies may look beautiful, but they're no simple task to raise. Because of this, Gao Yuan didn't stock very many. There is also another reason Gao Yuan himself dislikes this "flower of the afterlife."
Don't be so mindful of me. Are you selling or not?
T/N: The red spider lily is also known as "Higanbana" (Japanese), or "Manjusha" (Chinese), which is literally "flower of the afterlife".
All of them!
I do still have some. But how many are you buying?

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You may have a large appetite,
but I won't allow it. How about I take them out of storage and you can have as many as you can carry?
Yes!
Red spider lilies are not grown from seeds. As a bulbous plant, we rely on their bulbs. They are rather large and so are rather troublesome to raise.
This is everything we have.
Do you have any more?
It's not as if no one ever buys red spider lilies, but it's always don't buying only one or two. Buying so many at all once isn't normal. Gao Yuan had a bad feeling, but thought it was too early to jump to conclusions.
En....
I'm going out. Jiang Hua, watch over the shop.
En.

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Just what is this child.....
16:21
Gao Yuan
Looks like I'll be busy tonight.....
Hey! Jiang Hua, I have a premonition. Tell me, what day is it today?
It's the Ghost Festival.
T/N. Zhongyuan Jie is the day when offerings are made to the deceased.
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Whoosh—

...ter planting your yard full of red spider lilies,
you may be able to deceive spirits into believing it
to be one of many roads to the afterlife
and thus, follow the path there.
The ghost door opens, and the spirit returns.
Does this..... method of seeing your loved ones really exist?
What are you asking if it exists for? Can't you tell just from looking? Jiang Hua's prediction was right!
彼岸花

Such a bother. Why are humans always like this?!
Though I don't know where you found this spell, you'd best hand the book over to me. But first, let me handle these guys!
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Ah?
Stop!
Gah, a sneak attack!
D, don't cut my sister.
This house of yours is shrouded in yin. There is excess ghost energy, so ghosts are easily attracted. The issue is that you don't know whether or not you will attract the one you want. At this rate, before you find your little sister, these guys will——
彼岸花
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tear you to shreds.
That being said, I'll try not to act too quickly, so look for her properly.
With every snip of Gao Yuan's scissors, one or a couple red spider lilies were cut down.
In the moments that they were cut,
the wandering souls lost what they had depended on and dispersed,
looking for the true path to the afterlife.

Wait!
Take your time. I'll go deal with something else.
彼岸
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Upon seeing the older brother that she had always relied on,
the little girl became overjoyed and laughed.
Her mouth moved, yet made no sound.
It seemed as if she wanted to say ——

Brother——

Thank you.
However, doing this
really is foolish.

I'm sorry
but I have to leave.
Please, live a good life.

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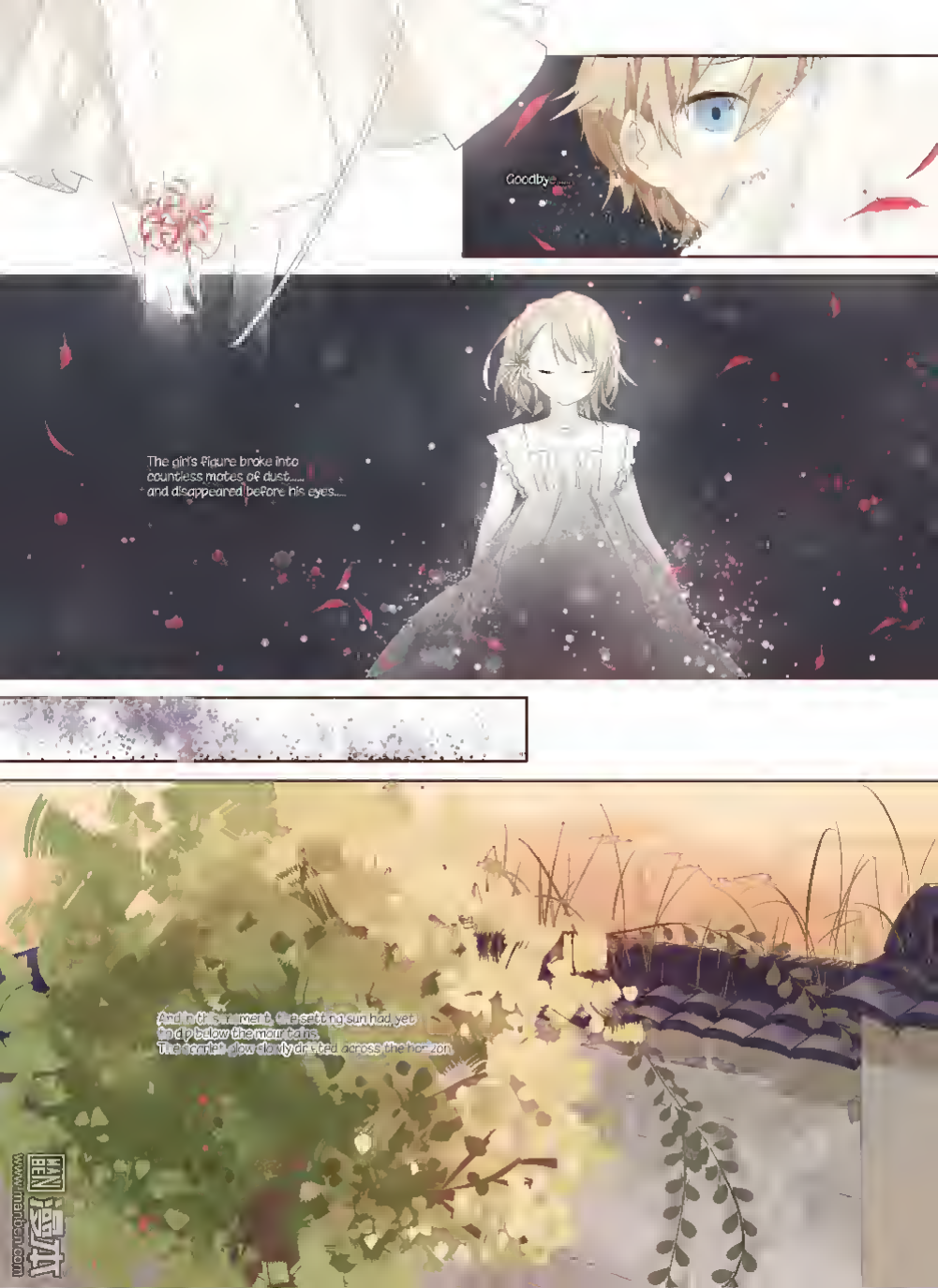
Goodbye...
The girl's figure broke into countless motes of dust..... and disappeared before his eyes....
And in that moment, the setting sun had yet to dip below the mountains. The crimson glow slowly drifted across the horizon.

Here, take this.
They're Irises. You should plant them.
.....
I'm not deceiving you. Jiang Hua said these flowers are for going to heaven. If anything happens, find her.
I'll be taking this dangerous thing Later, if your family asks what happened,
tell them that a meteorite fell into the yard and burned away all the flowers you planted, and along with them, the book as well Ah, do remember.
In the end, I didn't even get to say half a sentence to her.

With such a fool risking his life for her, she must have received your support, even on the path to the afterlife.
I'm sorry about what happened in the shop. Also, just now..... thank you.
By the way, exactly who are you?
Just a man that runs a flower shop.

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